

**REMARKS:**

In the decision issued from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, the rejection of claims 1-33 was reversed and the rejection of claim 34 was affirmed. Claim 34 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is presented.

Thus, claims 1-33 are pending and under consideration.

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A decision on appeal dated January 29, 2010 was issued by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (the Board). The decision reversed the rejection of claims 1-33 and affirmed the rejection of claim 34 based on the grounds specified by the examiner.

As mentioned above, claim 34 (the only claim having a rejection sustained) is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-33 are in condition for allowance.

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There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

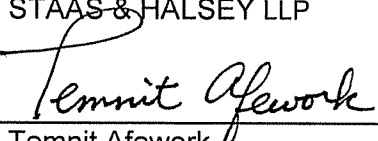
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 03/29/2010

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